

MULTIMEDIA



UNIVERSITY

STUDENT ID NO

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MULTIMEDIA UNIVERSITY

FINAL EXAMINATION

TRIMESTER 1, 2017/2018

LRV0025- READING AND VOCABULARY: SKILLS AND STRATEGIES 2 (All sections / Groups)

13 October 2017
3.00 p.m. - 5.00 p.m.
(2 Hours)

INSTRUCTIONS TO STUDENTS

1. This question paper consists of six pages with four sections only.
2. Answer **ALL** questions in the Answer Booklet.

SECTION A: READING COMPREHENSION [20 MARKS]**Instructions:** Read the passage carefully and answer ALL questions that follow.**A Tale of Two Countries**

- 1 Some call it the "Hermit Kingdom." It is a place where the outside world has been walled off. American pop music is illegal here and you can get executed for watching soap operas. This is not a make-believe world in a science fiction novel. It is a 46,000 square mile nation hanging off the east coast of China. It is one of the poorest nations in the world and it is armed with nuclear weapons. It is North Korea. 1
- 2 Immediately to the south lies a nation with one of the world's richest economies. About one-third of all phones and TVs are made here. The people of this nation are among the world's most educated. Unemployment is low, job security is high, and workers in this nation enjoy the highest salaries in Asia. It is South Korea. The people of this nation share origins with their northern neighbor, but they have since grown far apart. 10
- 3 The Democratic People's Republic of Korea (known to Westerners as North Korea) was founded in 1945 after World War II. Their neighbor at the end of the Korean Peninsula, South Korea or the Republic of Korea, was established at the same time. These two nations have an unusual history. For one thing, they have technically been at war since 1950. Though they were born at the same time, these two countries had different parents. The United States supported South Korea in its infancy. China and the Soviet Union supported North Korea. The U.S. and the Soviet Union may have ended World War II as allies, but they had different ways 15 of organizing their societies. 20
- 4 The U.S. is a capitalist country. That means that some people are rich and some people are poor. Resources are distributed unevenly. Businesses are owned by private entities. The Soviet Union claimed to have a communist system. That means that everybody supposedly gets the same. Resources are distributed more evenly. Businesses are owned in "common" by the government. These two superpower nations raised North and South Korea in their own images. 25
- 5 North Korea and South Korea share a border. Since they are locked in state of perpetual war, it is not a regular boarder with a simple checkpoint. The border they share is known as a "demilitarized zone." A demilitarized zone is supposed to be free from military installations. Yet, the Korean Demilitarized Zone is the most heavily militarized border in the world. Both nations have their biggest guns lined-up on the divide and pointed at the other side. It is literally the opposite of what the phrase "demilitarized zone" implies. 30
- 6 The two Koreas went to war in 1950. The North attacked and took over much of South Korea. However, the United States jumped in and pushed the North Koreans back to the Chinese border. Then China got involved and pushed the Americans and South Koreans back. The nations agreed to a ceasefire. Millions of people were dead and the living returned to their original boundaries. The war never officially ended, though combat has ceased for the most part. 35
- 7 After the war, South Korea was one of the poorest nations in the world. In 1960 the average citizen made \$79 a year. The country did not have a lot of natural 40

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resources to sell, but they did have many hardworking people. During the 1960s, the country began manufacturing labor-intensive products. Selling these products to people in other nations made South Korea rich. They now have one of the largest and most thriving economies in the world. As of 2012, the average South Korean citizen makes around \$32,020 a year.

- 8 The economy of North Korea is dramatically different. Since its birth in the 1940s, North Korea has been one of the most secluded countries in the world. They promote an idea of self-reliance that they call Juche. Under this idea, they do little to no trading with other nations. Up until the 1980s, they received large cash infusions from China and the Soviet Union. However, the Soviet Union fell apart in the 80s and became separate capitalist countries, of which Russia is largest. Without the Soviet contributions, North Korea entered a long period of famine that lasted through the 90s. Food was hard to come by and some estimate that millions of people starved to death. Still, the country persisted when much of the world thought that it would fall apart. Not only did they survive, they managed to build a nuclear arsenal during this time.
- 9 Some day, Korea may be unified again. It seems unlikely now, but stranger things have happened. Yet, even if they did unify, how could these very different societies acclimate to one another? They have grown in different directions. One country is among the wealthiest, the other amongst the poorest. The average North Korean male is estimated to be five-inches shorter than a South Korean (some suspect because of malnutrition). With such big differences, will they ever be able to see eye to eye?

A Tale of Two Countries. (n.d.). Retrieved June 30, 2017, from <http://www.ereadingworksheets.com/reading-comprehension-worksheets/nonfiction-reading-test-korea.htm>

Instructions: Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

- a. How is the text structured? (1 mark)
- b. Based on the first and second paragraph of the text, what are the two ways in which South and North Korea differ from each other? (2 marks)
- c. What is a communist country? (2 marks)
- d. Explain the irony in the Korean Demilitarized Zone? (2 marks)
- e. What made the Korean War particularly tragic? Support your argument with a quote from the text. (3 marks)
- f. In what ways have the two Koreas grown apart post war? Discuss two ways in which they have grown apart and support each of your points with evidences from the text. (4 marks)

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- g. Complete the table with important events that happened during the time period specified:

Time Period	Event
1945	i)
1950	ii)
1960s	iii)
1980s	iv)
1990s	v) vi)

(6 marks)

SECTION B: SUMMARY [15 MARKS]

Instructions: Read the following text carefully. Based on the information, write a summary of about **120 words** on **reasons why students play truant**.

Truancy, described as missing school without permission, is a growing problem in today's schools. Problematic truancy can lead to lowered student achievement, delinquency, drug involvement, and even early pregnancy. A student's truancy can signal low attachment to school and produce negative relationships with peers who also have issues attending school. In some instances, these tendencies seem to be associated with those also experiencing drug abuse. The effect of student truancy not only affects the student, but also continues to impact schools and communities. Truancy has the potential to cause a decline in the economy of our nation, and therefore be viewed as the serious problem it is. In order to prevent or reduce high school dropout rates, elementary and middle schools must look at strategies to reduce absenteeism, therefore improving student attendance which ultimately may create an increase in student motivation. According to the National Center for Health Statistics, over one-quarter (15 million) of school-aged children (aged 5–17 years) in the United States did not have perfect attendance during the previous surveyed year due to illness or injury. During the survey year, five percent of children missed 11 or more days of school due to illness or injury. Children from families with low incomes were more than twice as likely to have absences of 11 days or more (9%) compared to children from families with the highest income (4%). The survey found that this might be because families of the lower income lack the financial means to get medical help. This hinders them from sending their kids to school until their kids get better, which will take a longer time. It is also stated that children from single-parent families were more than twice as likely to have been absent from school for 11 or more days during the past survey year due to illness or injury as compared to children from two-parent families. The reason could be that their parents lack the help and support needed to take care of the kids or the other kids he or she has. Hence, not sending their kids to school becomes the easier alternative.

Statistically, nationwide during a four-week period in the spring of 2000, more than half of eighth, tenth, and twelfth grade students missed one or more days of school. Frequent truancy caused the students to miss educational information and skills that were needed to be successful throughout the school year. Students who were truant often exhibited lower

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achievement, which fostered academic frustration causing further truancy. When students are academically weak, they become inferior to their friends. They also have low self-image and poor relationship with their peers. In addition, these students normally feel scared of their teachers. This could be due to their inability to answer questions when asked, or to complete tasks and homework given. Other than the aforementioned reasons, school size was identified as another factor that could cause students to be absent from school. Large school size might cause students to feel unsupported. When children do not feel a sense of belonging in school, they often seek support elsewhere, which can result in truancy. There is also evidence which suggests that smaller schools might positively influence higher student attendance.

The physical condition of the school was one factor researched as a potential hindrance to attendance. A study was conducted to determine if the infrastructure of a school influenced student absenteeism. Infrastructure was defined in the study as the physical condition of the building, permanent versus non-permanent components of the building, quality of custodial care within the building, and how crowded the classrooms were in each case. The study concluded that absenteeism and dropout rates could be impacted by the infrastructure of the school. Findings revealed that schools in need of structural repair, used temporary buildings such as portable modular units, or had inadequate custodial care produced an environment that discouraged student attendance. The findings supported that high absenteeism was especially likely in schools with a large percentage of low performing students.

The search for parental factors that might inhibit student attendance led to researched reasons for poor student attendance in a primary school in Nigeria. The study identified several factors that inhibited parents from sending their children to school. The most prevalent factors were poverty and the high cost of schooling. Additional reasons identified in the study were the value of money, misconceptions about the importance of educating females, and the rise in unemployment. The study concluded that poor parents did not send their children to school and females were more likely to be absent from school. Parents did not send their children to school because the parents did not want to pay the cost of schooling. Furthermore, children were discouraged from going to school because of the parents' beliefs that jobs would not be available even if the children went to school.

In addition, student mobility was identified as another link to truancy. Students with high mobility rates tended to have an increase in absenteeism and a decrease in achievement. A recent study researched the academic performance of students with high mobility rates and students who were non-mobile. A negative relationship was found between student mobility rates and academic performance. A potential cause of disparity in performance could be associated with lost learning opportunities between changes in the schools which they attended as well as inconsistencies in school curricula.

The Problems of Student Truancy. (2012, January 22). Retrieved July 10, 2017, from <http://gigarelifestyle.com/education/the-problems-of-student-truancy>

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SECTION C: INTERPRETING LINEAR AND NON-LINEAR TEXT [15 MARKS]

Instructions: Create a suitable diagram that shows the population figures for India and China since the year 2000 and predicted population growth up until 2050.

The graph shows how the populations of India and China have changed since 2000 and how they will change in the future.

In 2000, there were more people living in China than in India. The number of Chinese was 1.25 billion, while India's population was about 1 billion. Between 2000 and 2010, there has been a 0.2 billion rise in the number of Indian citizens. Over the same period, China's population has increased by 0.1 billion to reach over 1.35 billion.

According to the graph, the population in India will increase more quickly than in China, and experts say that by 2030, both countries will have the same population of 1.45 billion. After this, China's population is likely to fall slightly to 1.4 billion in 2050, while India's population will probably increase and reach 1.6 billion.

Thus, over the 50-year period, India is going to experience steady growth in its population and it will overtake China. On the other hand, China's population will peak in 2030 and then begin to fall.

SECTION D: IDIOMS AND PHRASAL VERBS [10 MARKS]**Question I (5 marks)**

Instructions: Fill in the blanks with the correct idioms.

axe to grind	put one's hand to plough	horseplay
cut corners	above board	at the drop of a hat

- a. "I told you boys, no _____ standing in line. You are not getting into the theater if you do not stop it this instance."
- b. We now have a situation where laws may be changed _____.
- c. Environmentalists have no political _____ - they just want to save the planet.
- d. "He did not do anything improper; it was all _____."
- e. "I would like to get your help, but I hate to _____."

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Question II (5 marks)**Instructions:** Choose verbs and particles from the following boxes to make phrasal verbs.

Fill in the blanks with the correct phrasal verbs. You may use the same particles more than once.

verbs	sit	blow	run	looked	touching	pass	give
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particles	on	over	out	around	back	for	up
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- a. The firefighters fought the blaze while the crowd _____.
- b. I do not like these types of rough games. I think I will _____ this one _____ if you do not mind.
- c. If you see Jane tomorrow, _____ my best wishes to her for her new baby.
- d. Do not worry about the argument you had with your sister. It will soon _____.
- e. The professor spent two hours speaking about the economy without even _____ globalization.

End of paper